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No. 129

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NEY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 24, 1998.

I hereby designate the Honorable ROBERT W. NEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend A. David Agro, Capitol Hill United Methodist Church, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

O God of Abraham and Sarah, Hagar and Ishmael, Isaac and Rebekah, Esau and Jacob, Leah and Rachel, Zilpah and Bilhah, we ask for Your faithful presence in this place with these Your people who like our forebears chart the way for many. Enable these servants to follow Your call like Abraham and Sarah to a new land that You will show in order that we too may be a great nation. Hear, O God, the voice of those in the wilderness as You did Hagar and Ishmael and speak Your words of reassurance even as You guide decisions for the sake of those who are outcast and crying for justice. Grant courage that the wrestling in this Chamber will be marked by the fortitude of Rachel and Jacob in their struggle for new life and with familiar issues. May Your face be seen, O God, like Jacob, in the face of our brother and sister as we give thanks for the blessings received from Your hand. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WELLER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3150. An act to amend title 11 of the United States Code, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 3150) "An Act to amend title 11 of the United States Code, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. HATCH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. DURBIN to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

WELCOME TO REV. A. DAVID AGRO

(Mr. MILLER of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, we welcome this morning the Reverend

David Agro, who is the pastor of the Capitol Hill United Methodist Church just four short blocks from the Capitol here. Reverend Jim Ford, who is the House chaplain, is in surgery this morning and will be back with us next week. We wish him well and expect his speedy recovery.

Often on occasions we spend weekends here in Washington, and it is a pleasure to have the opportunity to attend services on Sunday morning. My wife and I have attended the Capitol Hill United Methodist Church on many of those occasions. It is a congregation that makes you feel welcome, has beautiful music and very inspirational sermons, so it is a pleasure to have the Reverend David Agro with us this morning and to have him share those inspirational words with us.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 one-minutes from each side.

OPPOSING ANY DEAL TO SHORT-CIRCUIT THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS REGARDING THE PRESIDENT

(Mr. DELAY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, let us dispense with the notion that Congress can punish the President, punish either by a so-called censure, a fine, or any other punishment. Such a deal is unconstitutional, and anyone who believes in that kind of deal believes not in the rule of law but the rule of man, and needs to read the Constitution.

Impeachment is a process of deciding whether a President is fit for office.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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